

II. REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-6, 8-12, 14 and 15 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,100,804 to Brady et al, in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,793,639 to Yamazaki. In view of those references the Applicant has canceled claims 1-15.

With respect to claim 4, Applicant has amended the language of the claim to clarify that the data stored as a result of the inspection of baggage is either one or both textual information and imaging information derived from the inspection and has rewritten it as claim 17 to incorporate each of the elements of the rejected based claim. Support for this amendment is found in the specification in paragraph 0026 of the published application, lines 5-11. Neither Brady nor Yamazaki, alone or in combination, discuss the storage of such specific inspection information relating to the security scanning of baggage nor recognize the advantage of doing so. Thus, with respect to subject matter claimed in new claim 17, Applicant submits that it is now in proper form for allowance and requests favorable consideration of the same.

The Examiner has objected claims 7 and 13 as being dependent upon rejected base claims but indicated that they would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant thanks the Examiner for his helpful suggestions and with this response adds independent claims 18 and 19 in accordance with those suggestions. Applicant submits that claims 18 and 19 are now in condition for allowance and requests favorable consideration of the same.

Claim 16 has been amended to correct a typographical error. In addition, Applicant notes that the Examiner has allowed claim 16 on PTOL-326 and in paragraph 14 of the Detailed Action. However, in paragraph 2 of the Detailed Action there is a comment that "claims 1-16 are rejected". Applicant submits that this ambiguity appears to be a simple typographical error and is not meant to convey an actual rejection of claim 16.

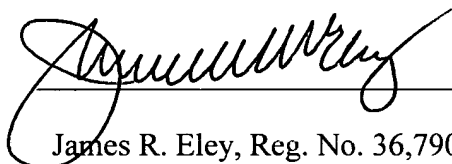
The Applicant notes that the Examiner has cited, but not applied, U.S. Patent Nos.: 5,051,565; 5,313,052; 6,111,506; 6,335,688; 6,801,907; 5,401,944; 5,866,888; 5,920,053; 6,119,096; 6,112,989; and 6,108,636, against the instant application.

Apparently the Examiner does not consider that these patents, either alone or in combination, obviate or anticipate the Applicant's claimed invention.

III. CONCLUSION

In view of the forgoing amendment and remarks, Applicant submits that the remaining claims are in proper form for allowance and requests favorable consideration from the Examiner.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James R. Eley", is written over a horizontal line.

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